

**From:** Roland Bockhorst  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 10:08pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I oppose the Microsoft Settlement because it is unfair to consumers and harms many Microsoft competitors. Please, there are many loopholes that make the proposed final judgment hardly even a slap on the wrist.

As a computer professional, I have seen the diminishing of choice, computer security and quality of software during Microsoft's monopoly. It is time to seriously reign them in.

I suggest forbidding the tying of hardware and software operating systems so a person is not forced to take an unwanted software package when a computer is purchased.

If an information file is produced on a Microsoft product, (spreadsheet, word processor or database) I am almost forced to buy a Microsoft product in order to be able to read this information file. This is fair neither to consumers nor other software vendors. I therefore suggest opening the data interface descriptions so Microsoft software will interoperate with other software vendor's packages. I feel I own information and stories I have written and produced. I feel that that information is being hijacked if it cannot be easily and freely read by others who do not own specific Microsoft programs. Only a monopoly can enforce this situation against my will and the will of my readers.

I am afraid that the computer industry will be set back many years if this inadequacy in the proposed settlement is not corrected.

Sincerely,

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